

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A print method for a colour ink-jet printer (4) of the type comprising at least four ink cartridges (2) each containing a basic colour chosen from amongst yellow (Y), magenta (M), cyan (C) and black (K) and at least one supplementary cartridge containing an ink of a so-called pale basic colour, and in which a print instruction (4) is received containing information relating to the requested colour (CD) and/or to the number and colour of the ink drops (ED) to be deposited on one another at a given location referred to as a pixel (Pi) of a chosen print medium (5), ~~characterised in that it also comprises,~~ further including an optimisation mode in which, according to a pre-established correspondence, the requested colour (CD) and/or the required number and colour of the drops to be superimposed (ED) in order to obtain a chosen colour at a given pixel (Pi) is made to correspond to an equivalent colour (CE) and/or an equivalent number and colour of the drops to be superimposed, (EE) making it possible to obtain a substantially equivalent and satisfactory colour rendition in accordance with the sensory response of the human eye, and ~~in that~~ wherein the equivalent colour (CE) and/or the equivalent number and colour of the droplets to be superimposed (EE) thus determined are applied to the printer (4) for each printed instruction received.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1, in which the colours used belong to the group formed by yellow (Y), magenta (M), cyan [(C)], black (K), pale magenta (Mpale), pale cyan (Cpale), and pale black (Kpale), ~~characterised in that~~ and wherein the equivalent number of drops to be superimposed (EE) is less than the required number of drops to be superimposed (ED).

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 2, in which the printer (1) comprises six to eight ink cartridges, ~~characterised in that~~ and wherein the equivalent number of droplets to be superimposed is less than or equal to three or four.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~one of Claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the optimisation mode comprises several correspondence levels.

5. (Currently Amended) A colour ink-jet printer of the type comprising at least four ink cartridges (2) each containing a basic colour chosen from amongst yellow (Y), magenta (M), cyan (C), and black (K) and at least one supplementary cartridge containing an ink of a ~~so-called~~ pale basic colour and processing means (3,7) able to receive a print instruction (4) containing information relating to the requested colour (CD) and/or to the number and colour of the ink drops (ED) to be deposited on one another at a given location referred to as a pixel (Pi) of a chosen print medium (5), ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the processing means (3,7) comprise an optimisation mode in which ~~they are able to make~~ the requested colour (CD) and/or the required number and colour of the droplets to be superimposed (ED) in order to obtain a chosen colour at a given pixel (Pi) ~~correspond~~ corresponds to an equivalent colour (CE) and/or an equivalent number and colour of the droplets to be superimposed (EE) ~~making it possible~~ to obtain a substantially equivalent and satisfactory colour rendition in accordance with the sensory response of the human eye, and to apply to the printer (1) the equivalent colour (CE) and/or the equivalent number and colour of the droplets to be superimposed (EE) thus determined for each print instruction received.

6. (Currently Amended) A printer according to Claim 5, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the correspondence is established according to a pre-established law or table of correspondence (TAB).

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Software intended to drive~~ that drives a colour ink-jet printer ~~(4)~~ of the type comprising at least four cartridges each containing a basic colour chosen from amongst yellow, magenta, cyan and black and a supplementary cartridge containing an ink of a ~~so-called~~ pale basic colour, ~~the~~ said software comprising instruction codes ~~able~~ to process a print instruction comprising information relating to the requested colour ~~(CD)~~ and/or the required number and colour of ink drops to be superimposed ~~(ED)~~ in order to obtain the requested colour at a given pixel of a chosen print medium, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the instruction codes of the software are able to make the requested colour ~~(CD)~~ and/or a required number and colour of the droplets to be superimposed ~~(ED)~~ in order to obtain the requested colour at the said pixel to correspond to an equivalent colour ~~(CE)~~ and/or an equivalent number and colour of droplets to be superimposed ~~(EE)~~ making it possible to obtain a substantially equivalent and satisfactory colour rendition in accordance with the sensory response of the human eye, and to apply to the printer the equivalent colour and/or the equivalent number and colour of droplets to be superimposed thus determined for each print instruction received.

8. (Original) A storage medium containing the instruction codes of the software according to Claim 7.